O.C.B. Telephone Exchanges in Hamirpur

†3808. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to set up OCB Telephone Exchanges based on latest technique of communications in the District of Hamirpur, Bilaspur and Ooni of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) There is no plan with the Government at present to set up OCB telephone exchanges based on latest technique of communications in Hamirpur, Bilaspur and Ooni Districts of Himachal Pradesh. The existing CDOT MAX-XL exchanges working in these areas are fully meeting the requirement. However, it is planned to provide an independent OCB Trunk Automatic Exchange at Hamirpur in the year 2002-2003.

Telephone arrears

3809. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge arrears of telephone bills are pending from several subscribers including the Central and State Governments;

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.